



Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls



The SCGSG Literacy Festival - Monday 22nd - Friday 26th June

Dear Parent or Caregiver,

It is almost time for our highly anticipated annual Literacy Festival, one of the highlights of the school year – during which our entire school community come together to celebrate the joy and power of reading!

This year's festival promises a fantastic range of activities and events for students to enjoy, including competitions, a scavenger hunt, book-themed crafts, and a lunchtime screening of *The Fantastic Four*. We are also delighted to offer several special events that we would particularly like to bring to your attention below.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Hallie Rubenhold – Monday 22nd June (Year 12)

Frances Hardinge – Thursday 25th June (Years 9 & 10)

Sophie Cleverly – Friday 26th June (Years 7 & 8)

We are delighted to welcome a fantastic lineup of guest authors as part of this year's festival.

Our first visiting author is Hallie Rubenhold, bestselling author, social historian, broadcaster, and historical consultant for television and film. Hallie is best known for her award-winning book *The Five* and will be joining our Year 12 students for an engaging Q&A session and book signing.

We are also thrilled to welcome Frances Hardinge, bestselling and award-winning author of eleven novels. Frances is renowned for her imaginative storytelling, skilfully blending historical settings with elements of fantasy and mystery. Her work has received widespread critical acclaim and numerous prestigious awards, including the Costa Book Award, the British Science Fiction Award for Best Book for Younger Readers, the UKLA Book Award (12–16 category), and the Branford Boase Award.

Finally, we are excited to host Sophie Cleverly, bestselling author of the popular *Scarlet and Ivy* and *Violet Veil Mysteries* series. Sophie's visit is one our students have been eagerly anticipating, as her books are among the most loved in our library collection. During her visit, Sophie will speak with students in Years 7 and 8 about the inspiration behind her writing and the process of creating her captivating mystery stories.

BOOK SIGNING!

Frances Hardinge (25th June) Lunchtime in the Library

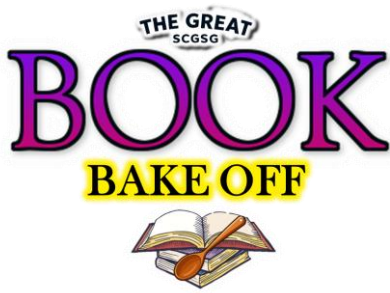
Sophie Cleverly (26th June) Lunchtime in the Library

OPEN TO ALL YEAR GROUPS – CASH ONLY

Books will be available to purchase from our Waterstones pop-up bookshop, with prices starting from £7.99. Students who already own copies of the authors' books are very welcome to bring them into school to be signed. If any students in Years 7–10 would like a copy of a book signed by Hallie Rubenhold, please ask them to speak to Mrs Jowett so that arrangements can be made.



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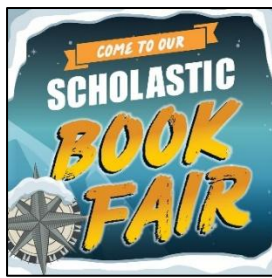


Monday 22nd June

Our annual Charity Book Bake Off continues to grow in popularity each year, and we are delighted to once again invite our talented student bakers to take part by creating their own book-themed cakes and bakes. **Who will be crowned our 'Star Baker' of 2026?**

Students wishing to take part must sign up in the library. On Monday 22nd June, cakes should be brought to The Hub before registration. Please ensure that a full list of ingredients is provided with each entry to support students and staff with allergies.

Cakes will be judged by a staff vote, after which the cakes will be sold at break time for 50p per slice or cupcake. All proceeds raised will be donated to Read for Good, a charity that provides books and storytellers to children who are seriously ill in hospital. The winning baker will receive a £20 book voucher along with our highly coveted 'Star Baker' badge. All participants will also receive character points and certificates in recognition of their efforts.



Monday 22nd - Thursday 25th June & Open Evening

Our Scholastic Book Fair will once again be visiting the school, offering students a wonderful selection of books to browse and purchase, with prices starting from just £3.99.

Every purchase made at the fair also helps to support our school library, as 25% of all sales is returned to the school to spend on new books for our students to enjoy. Please see the attached highlights booklet for a preview of some of the fantastic titles that will be available at this year's fair. [Book Fair Highlights](#)

We encourage you to follow our social media pages throughout the week, where we will be sharing photographs and highlights from the festival events as they take place. The Literacy Festival is always a truly special occasion within our school community, celebrating creativity, imagination, and the joy of reading. We hope that students will thoroughly enjoy the wide range of activities and opportunities on offer, and we look forward to another memorable and inspiring week.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Jowett
Librarian